



## GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023, 4:45 pm - 7 pm  
Student Center East, 750 S Halsted St., Room 301

1. **Welcome and Dinner Distribution – 5-5:15pm**
2. **Sydney DeJonge called the meeting to order at 5:22pm**
  - Vote for Approval of September Meeting Minutes
    - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Karoline Dittmer
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Sara Lung
    - iii. Vote
      - Yes: 39
      - No: 0
      - Abstain: 2
3. **5:30pm Guest Speakers – Chief Kevin Booker and Vice Chancellor John Cornado**
  - Vice Chancellor John Cornado
    - i. Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services
    - ii. (312) 413-1401
    - iii. [jcoronad@uic.edu](mailto:jcoronad@uic.edu)
  - Chief Kevin Booker
    - i. Chief of Police at the University of Illinois Chicago
    - ii. (312) 996-2899
    - iii. [bookerk5@uic.edu](mailto:bookerk5@uic.edu)
  - All UIC Police Officers possess the powers of municipal police officers and country sheriffs. They enforce state statues and local ordinances on and off campus. They also report violations of university regulations on campus.
  - Area of Patrol (see image on attached slides):
    - i. Adams to the North
    - ii. Canal to the East
    - iii. 18<sup>th</sup> St. to the South
    - iv. Western to the West
  - Star-Tel Emergency Stations (8ft. blue-light posts) are located throughout public walkways on East and West campus. They are a way for direct access to the UIC Police Department press the red call button to contact the police.
  - Walking Escorts:
    - i. UIC police provide walking escort services to university students, employees, visitors, and other authorized individuals.
    - ii. They are offered 24-hours/day, 7-days/week and are conducted by a police officer if they student patrol is unavailable.
    - iii. **To schedule a walking escort, call (312) 996-2930.**
  - UIC Police Website is full of Helpful Information
    - i. [police.uic.edu](http://police.uic.edu)
      - About
      - Services

- a. Safe Exchange Location
    - b. Rides and Escorts
    - c. Child safety seat program
  - Resources
    - a. UIC Safe App
    - b. How to report a crime
    - c. Contact Information
  - Crime Data Log
    - a. Daily crime log for the university campus
  - Community Engagement
    - a. Cop on a Rooftop
    - b. Breast Cancer Awareness Events
  - Reform
    - a. UIC Police Demographics
    - b. Internal Affairs
- UIC Safe App: A mobile app provides a personal safety tool that users can carry with them on their smartphones. The app is a one-stop shop that puts all campus safety and emergency preparedness information in one place, enhancing campus safety tools currently available to students and employees.
  - <https://ready.uic.edu/toolkit/uic-safe-app/>
    - i. One-touch emergency call button
    - ii. Virtual friend walk
    - iii. UIC Police virtual escort
    - iv. Chat with UIC Police
    - v. Safety notifications
    - vi. Campus safety toolbox
    - vii. Emergency guidelines
    - viii. Report a crime tip.
    - ix. Work Alone
- Question & Answer
  - i. What training do the UIC police officers go through regarding strengths and biases, etc.?
    - Implicit and explicit bias training.
    - Currently undergoing a diversity training.
    - They have weekly meetings about National events and situations that are occurring to discuss possible options.
    - Chief Booker is being intentional about addresses areas that the officers, including himself are weak. They are all willing to learn and grow.
  - ii. What is the difference between Police and Security at UIC?
    - There is no assigned security to UIC buildings, only the UI Hospital.
    - Security is contracted through an outside company; therefore, they are schedule when to be on campus and what buildings they may be in.
    - 7 parking security on both East and West campus from 8pm-4am.

- When you call the Police department for anything, they will respond with an officer since there are no security through UIC.
- iii. Campus Housing Safety:
  - Chief Booker is in constant contact with the leaders of the housing and athletic departments to learn about the students issues with safety and actively takes action to help increase that for all students.
- iv. How do you navigate the student perception and the real aspects of the crime data?
  - When you look at the numbers, we are a safe campus.
  - We understand that students and staff may not always feel safe, therefore we need to be in constant communication to let everyone know what is going on and what we are doing to help.
- v. What can the Police Officers do to help you feel safe?
  - Email or call them and give them suggestions, they are always willing to listen and take action to help.
  - They are continually working to break down barriers.
- vi. Women's Self-Defense Training – Pending January Date.
- vii. Does it cost money to have the UIC Police at your student event?
  - Yes, and they will work with the organization if they need police there.
  - However, if the event is on campus, call and let them know and they will make sure to patrol the area.

#### **4. Vice President Report**

- Expectations
  - i. Show respect when someone is speaking at the podium.
  - ii. Exercise mindfulness in your email communications with us.
  - iii. If you must consistently leave meetings early, you may not be the best departmental representative, and it's crucial to inform your department accordingly.
  - iv. If you plan to arrive late or leave early from a meeting, please send an email to GSC to inform us. If not, it will count as an absence.
  - v. If you anticipate missing a meeting, please notify us in advance. You can miss a maximum of 3 meetings before your department's students become ineligible for our awards, and we will inform your department as well.
- Dinner
  - i. If you have any allergies or dietary restrictions, please specify what they are during the RSVP or email me.
  - ii. Please RSVP by the deadline mentioned in the email. Dinners will not be provided to late RSVPs unless there are extra meals.
  - iii. Do not grab any food on the way out unless it is being distributed by executive committee members or officers.
  - iv. If you are late to a meeting, you can grab dinner at the end.
- Welcome Back Social
  - i. Our first event of the year was a resounding success!

- ii. We received a RSVP from over 200 people and ~100 people joined us.
  - iii. The food was a major hit, and everyone really enjoyed it! Including those who won the raffle items!
- Upcoming Events
  - i. FALL 2023
    - Yoga Event – Tuesday October 10, 2023, from 5-6pm at SFC Room 104 (fitness 1)
    - F45 Event – Friday October 27, 2023, from 5:30-6:30pm, SRF Room 144
    - Volunteering at the UIC Pop-Up Pantry
    - Mental Health Awareness Event – TBD
  - ii. SPRING 2024
    - Professional Headshots: January 29th and 30<sup>th</sup>
    - Painting and Relaxation: February (TBD)
    - Personal Statement Writing Event with Lindsay Marshall
      - a. March 28th, 5:30 pm
      - b. Help with Biosketch and Cover letter.
    - LinkedIn workshop with Propel Careers: April 10th, 5:30 pm
    - Teaching Statement writing workshop with UIC CATE (TBD)
    - Career Development workshop with Theresa Christenson-Caballero (TBD)
- UIC Pop-Up Pantry
  - i. Things to know about the UIC Pop-Up Pantry:
    - 100% of the food in the pantry comes from donations.
    - Supplies and selection are limited.
    - As a member of the Greater Chicago Food Depository (GCFD), the UIC Pop-Up Pantry is required to adhere to the GCFD rules and regulations.
    - GCFD Regulation: Each Pantry user is allowed to shop up to 2x/month. The GCFD system will alert staff if additional attempts are made.
    - All Pantry users are automatically subscribed to the Wellness Listserv, which sends out Pantry reminders.
    - Please bring your own reusable bags and I-card each time you shop the pantry.
    - The UIC Pop-Up Pantry is a community of UIC students and Wellness Center Staff who are working hard on student's behalf to find, deliver, and distribute donated food items. The staff ask that respectful language and honorable/ethical behaviors be in practice during your shopping experience.
  - ii. Shopping Guidelines:
    - Please bring your own reusable bags and I-card each time you shop the pantry.
    - You will receive a shopping number, and when your number is called, you will receive a basket and enter the Pantry.

- Shopping is based on a point system. Shoppers can get up to a total of 8 points per visit.
  - a. Food items in the Pantry are labeled according to how many points they are worth.
- Since the Pantry is based on donations, it runs on a first-come-first-serve basis. Items are limited and vary week by week.
- Lastly, be courteous to other shoppers, students, and staff.
- iii. Registration:
  - Must be a registered UIC student.
  - Register by stopping by the Wellness Center, Student Center East (750 S. Halsted St. Suite 238 from desk) Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm.
  - Fill out two short intake forms (~7-10 minutes).
  - Show your UIC I-card at the time of registration.
- iv. Location/Hours:
  - The pantry is located in Student Center East Tower – Montgomery Ward Gallery Room 213 (behind the elevators)
  - Hours: Every Wednesday and Thursday from 1pm-4pm.

## 5. Treasurer Report

- Budget:
  - i. Active GSC Budget: \$134,636
  - ii. Multi-year funds: \$103,775
    - Increased travel/conference awards: \$72,643
    - Branded Merchandise: \$17,642
    - Mental Health Seminars: \$6,745
    - Publications/Writing Seminars: \$6,745
  - iii. See attached slides for details on the budget.
  - iv. Budget Proposal Vote:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Jacob Van Doorn
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Jonathan Banks
      - a. Yes: 47
      - b. No: 0
      - c. Abstain: 1
- GSC Award Amount Changes (September GBM 2023):
  - i. Increased the travel award amount to **\$500**.
  - ii. Change the conference award amount to **\$250** (since this funds only virtual and Chicago conferences).
- Leadership Award Proposal:
  - i. Historically the GSC Leadership award for each officer: \$1,800 / semester
  - ii. This amount has remained unchanged over the past years, even with an increase in the graduate hourly minimum.
  - iii. Proposed GSC Leadership award amount: \$2,164 / semester
  - iv. Graduate Hourly Minimum for AY 2023-2024: \$30.05 (effective August 20, 2023)

- v.  $\$30.05 \times 12$  (~3 hours/week)  $\times$  6 months = \$2,163.60
- vi. Vote:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Foluke Beveridge
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Jonathan Banks
    - a. Yes: 42
    - b. No: 1
    - c. Abstain: 1
- Decision on President Leadership Award
  - i. GSC allocates 4 leadership awards per semester.
  - ii. With our GSC President taking a leave of absence this Fall semester, we must decide how to allocate this leadership award amount for the semester.
  - iii. Currently, the 3 active officers are performing the duties of what 4 officers traditionally do.
  - iv. With this in mind and in the spirit of transparency, we have two choices which we wanted to leave up to our representatives:
    - Option 1) Allocate the extra award amount to be distributed amongst the 3 current officers who have taken up added duties.
    - Option 2) Allocate the extra award amount towards other GSC spending (awards, events, etc.)
  - v. Vote I:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Nicole Muffitt
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mehrdad Zandigohar
    - Allocate the extra award amount to be distributed amongst the 3 current officers who have taken up added duties: 23
    - Allocate the extra award amount towards other GSC spending (awards, events etc.): 23
    - Abstain: 3
  - vi. Discussion amongst representatives due to the tie.
    - Explanation of splitting the fund between the three of us (1/3<sup>rd</sup> of \$2,164 per person).
    - Splitting half to officers and half to travel awards.
    - Officers discussed reasons for the leave of absence and the extra work that we are all doing.
  - vii. Vote II:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: John Conger
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Zoe Harris
    - Allocate the extra award amount to be distributed amongst the 3 current officers who have taken up added duties: 28
    - Allocate the extra award amount towards other GSC spending (awards, events etc.): 7
    - Split the money between 3 current officers and the GSC Spending: 15
    - Abstain: 0
  - viii. Budget/Award Questions?
    - Email: [sdeshm20@uic.edu](mailto:sdeshm20@uic.edu) or [gcsawards@gmail.com](mailto:gcsawards@gmail.com)

## **6. Secretary Report**

- Monthly Raffle – Remember to CC Sydney DeJonge ([sdejon3@uic.edu](mailto:sdejon3@uic.edu)) when forwarding Meeting Minutes to your department to be entered into our monthly raffle.

## **7. Announcements and Adjournment**

- Announcements:
  - i. There are still seats available for the UIC Senate, if you are interested in serving please email Sydney DeJonge ([sdejon3@uic.edu](mailto:sdejon3@uic.edu)) for more information.
- Sydney DeJonge called the meeting to order at 7:01pm
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Sara Lung
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Peculiar Onyekere